

SMOKE SIGNALS

Volume 39/Number 7 May 2006



Administration's Message

Dear Residents:

As I write this message, I have already begun my 8th year as your Mayor. Much has been accomplished through the efforts of our Administrative Team and the coming year measures optimistic expectations for continuing the enhancement of our quality of life.

First, your Village Board will once again pass a balanced budget for this fiscal year. Just as with any household, government must strive to live within its means. Realities, however, mandate that cost of living increases affect the public sector just as much as the private sector.

In March, the electorate said no to a referendum that appeared on the Indian Head Park primary ballot that would have allowed our Village to assess up to a 1% increase in the Village portion of the sales tax.

The legislation to allow local governments to increase the sales tax on items except food and medicine was introduced by now retired State Representative Eileen Lyons in the 2005 legislative session. Although vetoed by the Governor, the legislature overrode the veto last November thereby allowing the question to be presented this past March.

As such, your Village Board did not take a position either for or against the referendum because Illinois election law prohibits the expenditure of public funds to do so.

One of the arguments against increasing the sales tax is that shoppers would avoid spending in a particular area and that would have a negative affect on revenues.

One of the arguments in favor of increasing the sales tax is that those who reside outside of the community help to fund the quality of life of those in the community. It has been estimated that \$172,000.00 of revenue is generated for every 1% increase in the sales tax; thereby minimizing the need to increase the property tax.

Over the next several months, your Village Board will be analyzing whether to place the sales tax referendum upon the November 2006 ballot. Raising taxes, in any fashion, is never pleasant. Whether increasing a sales tax or taxes for our schools, this Administration adheres to the philosophy that such an approach is a matter of last resort.

Now, speaking of revenues, a portion of the generous donation of Dartmoor Homes to our Village has been budgeted to complete the driveway and parking area at the **Heritage Center** and to enhance the southeast corner of Plainfield and Wolf Roads now called **ARROWHEAD MEMORIAL POINTE**. The \$100,000.00 gift from Dartmoor is the first of five installments for a total of \$500,000.00 over the next 4 years.

Collaterally, under the guidance of **TRUSTEE MATT WALSH**, the pedestrian pathway along Plainfield Road is

progressing through the engineering phase. **DARTMOOR HOMES** has pledged \$175,000.00 as an additional donation to cover the cost of this public safety mechanism.

Additionally, your Administrative Team has requested a federal grant in the amount of \$1.5 million dollars to create a pedestrian underpass beneath Plainfield Road connecting Indian Head Park to Timber Trails on the western end of our Village. A letter has been forwarded to the Village of Western Springs seeking their participation.

Working together, we hope to achieve a meaningful balance between the needs of our communities and the positive benefits of development.

More than any other resource, it is the people of Indian Head Park that comprise our greatest resource.

On June 6, 2005, I had the great honor and privilege of writing a letter of recommendation to **CONGRESSMAN DANIEL LIPINSKI** supporting the appointment of resident **DAVID TIMOTHY CARLSON** to the United States Military Academy at West Point for 2006. On March 7, 2006 David received his letter of admission to West Point; as well as a letter of confirmation from Congressman Lipinski.

Congratulations to the entire Carlson family upon receiving this great honor. (Congrats also to the proud grandparents and IHP residents **Walt and Marsha Aalbrektse**). David's accomplishment is a point of pride for all of us who reside in Indian Head Park.

Congratulations are also in order for **AL KRISCIUNAS** and **BUD VILLARREAL**, both members of the Acacia Board of Directors, upon receiving Cook County Sheriff Michael Sheahan's Senior Medal of Honor on April 19, 2006. For the past 14 years, Sheriff Sheahan has had the privilege of honoring over 1,400 men and women of Cook County for their volunteer efforts and dedication to public service. A giant standing ovation to Al and Bud for your spirit of community.

For 8 years I have had the privilege of serving as your Mayor. I trust that during this time I have met some or most of your expectations and that my energies have contributed to our quality of life. One thing is for certain, that I continue to have the enthusiasm for the position for which you have entrusted me – the same enthusiasm that I had on day one!

Thanking you, once again, for allowing me the opportunity to serve this special piece of Earth that we call Indian Head Park.

Sincerely, Mayor Richard F. Pellegrino

P.S. Congratulations to Indian Head Park resident **CHRIS GABRIELIDES** on the grand re-opening (and renovation) of the **DOMO FAMILY RESTAURANT**.

Police Department Briefing Home Repair Scams

What to look for: door-to-door salespersons with no local connections offering to perform home repairs for much less than the market price. You receive solicitations for repair work from a company that provides only a telephone number or post office box number to contact. A salesperson or contractor offers to inspect your home for free. A contractor asks you to sign a contract that has blank spaces. **Beware if:** A contractor demands cash payment or full payment before the work is completed. A contractor requests that you make a check payable to a person other than the owner of the business or company name. A contractor refuses to provide references or proof of insurance when requested. A contractor offers "discount" prices that seem too good to be true. **What to do:** Do not open your door to contractors or salespeople unless you initiated the call. Get at least three written estimates. Check the contractor's background, references and prior work. Never sign a contract you do not understand or with blank spaces. Report a scam to the Office of the Attorney General, Better Business Bureau or your local law enforcement agency.

Scheduled Meeting Dates

Village Board of Trustees 7:30 p.m.:

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Thursday, June 8, 2006

Planning and Zoning Commission 7:30 p.m.:

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

Tuesday, June 6, 2006

Police Commission 7:00 p.m.:

Thursday, May 4, 2006

E-911 Board 6:30 p.m.:

Thursday, June 15, 2006

All meetings are held at the Municipal Facility at
201 Acacia Drive. All residents are welcomed!

Smoke Signals

Newsletter Coordinator, Kathy Leach
(708) 246-7099, extension 101
kleach@indianheadpark-il.gov

Volume 39, Number 7

Circulation 2000

Smoke Signals is published by the Village of Indian Head Park to inform its residents of present activities in the village and the ever-growing plans for the future in the pursuit of better government and good citizenship.

Teepee Topics news items should be submitted to the Newsletter Coordinator at the Municipal Offices.

Full page advertisements - \$200.00, 1/2 page advertisements - \$125.00, 3 1/2" x 3 1/2" size advertisements - \$75.00, business card size advertisements - \$45.00, trading post advertisements - \$20.00 (no commercial advertisements - the advertisement will run two times at no cost, then a \$20.00 charge).

Extra copies and back issues (up to one year) of *Smoke Signals* can be obtained at the Village Hall.

Deadline date for the next issue is June 9, 2006.

www.indianheadpark-il.gov

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www.indianheadpark-il.gov

Office Hours

Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays

Mayor:

Richard F. Pellegrino

Trustees:

Richard S. Andrews

Deborah A. Anselmo

Anne Bermier

Carol Coleman

Norman L. Schnauffer

Matthew P. Walsh II

Village Clerk:

Joseph V. Consolo

Administrator:

Frank Alonzo, Jr.

Chief of Police:

Patrick Crowley

Police Dept.

Non-Emergency

246-4534

Emergency

9-1-1

Fire Dept.

Non-Emergency

352-9229

Emergency

9-1-1

The advertisements and notices of privately sponsored events or activities contained in *Smoke Signals* are provided for informational purposes only, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of the Village of Indian Head Park, its officials or employees. The inclusion of a product advertisement or notice of a privately sponsored event or activity herein should not be construed as an endorsement by the Village of that product, event or activity.

Public Works Department Announcement Emerald Ash Borer Alert

The Emerald Ash Borer emerges in May through July and lays eggs between layers of bark crevices. The Emerald Ash Borer is a small 1/2 inch long metallic green beetle native to Asia. Though it was first found in Michigan in 2002 and it is likely that a beetle population has been established for many years prior to this discovery. More than 15 million ash trees have been destroyed. The most visible sign of infestation is crown dieback, which appears after the first year. Branches at the top of the crown will die and more branches will die in subsequent years. Adult beetles emerging from trees will leave a very small, 1/8 inch diameter distinctly "D" shaped exit hole that may appear anywhere on the trunk or upper branches.

For assistance in identifying suspect insects visit www.emeraldashborer.info/, www.na.fs.fed.us/fhp/eab or contact the Village of Indian Head Park Public Works Department at (708) 246-1233. The Village of Indian Head Park was named again as a Tree City U.S.A. by the National Arbor Day Foundation to honor its commitment to community forestry. This is the sixteenth year Indian Head Park has received this national recognition. Tree City U.S.A. is sponsored in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service.

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Women's History Month

Most people know the stories behind the names of Jane Addams, Harriet Tubman or Eleanor Roosevelt, but history is filled with thousands of women who have made important contributions to society. In March, Mayor Pellegrino and the Board of Trustees recognized Women's History month and the important contributions that our grandmothers, mothers, daughters, sisters and aunts have also made to society. Mayor Pellegrino further noted: In 1981, the U.S. Congress passed a resolution establishing National Women's History Week. The week was chosen to coincide with International Women's Day, March 8. In 1987, Congress expanded the week to a month. Every year since, Congress has passed a resolution for Women's History Month and the U.S. President has issued a proclamation.

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Efficient water use can have major environmental, public health and economic benefits by helping to improve water quality and protect drinking water resources.

Equipment -- homes with high efficiency plumbing fixtures and appliances save about 30% of indoor water use and yield substantial savings on water, sewer and energy bills: install low-flow faucet aerators and showerheads. High efficiency washing machines may save over 50% in laundry water and energy use. Repair all leaks. A leaky toilet can waste 200 gallons per day. To detect leaks in the toilet, add food coloring to the tank water. If the colored water appears in the bowl, the toilet is leaking. **Landscape Irrigation-- depending on the climate, up to 75% of a home's total water use during the growing season is for outdoor purposes.** Water the lawn or garden during the coolest part of the day (early morning or evening), water trees and shrubs, which have deep root systems, longer and less frequently, use soaker hoses or trickle irrigation systems for trees and shrubs, use mulch around shrubs and garden plants to reduce evaporation from the soil surface and to control weed growth, raise your lawn mower cutting height -- longer grass blades help shade each other and reduces evaporation. (Please observe the Village of Indian Head Park Outdoor Water Restrictions which are in effect from May 15th to September 15th -- no watering between the hours of noon to 6:00 p.m.)

Indian Head Park Woman's Club

The Indian Head Park Woman's Club will be hosting the last program of the year, the installation dinner, will also include entertainment. The meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 16, 2006 and the place is Café 36 located at 22 Calendar Court in downtown La Grange. Tickets can be purchased from Nell Schnulle by calling (708) 482-3112 or send an e-mail to arschnulle@aol.com. The entertainment for the evening will be Jennifer Riddle, a talented impersonator. Jennifer will be bringing history to life with her one-woman show by portraying the different characters, while sharing the story of actress Jeanette MacDonald's life. Although the characters she most admires are Edna St. Vincent Millay and Hillary Clinton.

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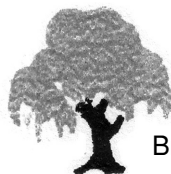
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NOTEWORTHY LETTERS



April 11, 2006

President Richard Pellegrino
Village of Indian Head Park
201 Acadia Drive
Indian Head Park, Illinois 60525

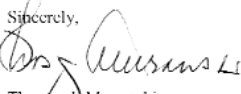
RE: Clean Air Certified Community Designation

Dear President Pellegrino:

On behalf of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and Clean Air Counts, I would like to welcome the Village of Indian Head Park as a Bronze level Clean Air Counts Certified Community. We are excited about the Village's decision to participate in the Campaign and help improve air quality in the Chicago region.

Your enthusiasm sets an excellent example for neighboring municipalities and other governing bodies in the region. We look forward to continuing to work with the Village of Indian Head Park to promote the Clean Air Counts Campaign.

Sincerely,


Thomas J. Murawski
Mayor, Village of Midlothian
Chairman, Clean Air Counts Campaign

Cc: K. Agasic, MMC
K. Leach, IHP

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**Village of Indian Head Park
201 Acadia Drive
Indian Head Park, IL 60525**

June 6, 2005

Honorable Daniel Lipinski
19 West Hillgrove
LaGrange, IL 60525

Dear Congressman Lipinski:

Please allow this letter to serve as my enthusiastic support of David Timothy Carlson for appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point in 2006.

In this regard, I have known David and his wonderful parents for fifteen years as a neighbor and as friends. In 1999, after being elected Mayor of the Village of Indian Head Park, several community projects were initiated. Over the last several years, David volunteered to assist in these projects and has served as a role model for all of the young adults in our community.

Yesterday, on June 5, 2005, David received the ranking of Eagle Scout from the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 12, Western Springs, Illinois; no small achievement.

From a personal perspective, David has a matured focus well beyond his years and work ethic that is un-paralleled for someone of his age. He has been raised by loving parents who have prepared a solid foundation of values and a nurturing home environment.

Quite simply, I can think of no other young man so deserving of appointment to West Point.

Thank you for the opportunity to share with you my observations of his fine character.

Sincerely,
Richard F. Pellegrino
Mayor

Richard M. Daley
Mayor, City of Chicago
Founding Chair
Thomas G. Adams
President, Village of Green Oaks
Executive Board Chair
Gayle A. Smolinski
Mayor, Village of Roselle
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OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY
WEST POINT, NEW YORK 10996-5000
March 7, 2006

David Timothy Carlson
11223 Hiawatha Lane
Indian Head Park, IL 60525-4333

Dear David:

On behalf of the President and the Secretary of the Army, I am pleased to announce that the United States Military Academy has accepted you for admission, contingent upon continuation of your excellent record and your medical and dental qualification at the time of enrollment.

Congratulations! Your appointment to the Class of 2010 is an extremely noteworthy accomplishment. In gaining admission, you have demonstrated an exceptional potential for future service to your country and fellow citizens. West Point's education and training programs will give you the opportunity to develop that potential fully.

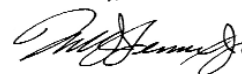
Before you enter West Point, I encourage you to consider the following:

- West Point requires cadets with determination, integrity, self-discipline, strength of character, endurance, and a willingness to work hard.
- West Point exists to provide *leaders of character* for our Army who are inspired to *careers as commissioned officers* and to a lifetime of service to the nation. Because West Point offers education and training at public expense, West Pointers, both as cadets and officers, are obligated to give in return the best of themselves and to serve on Active duty as Army officers for at least five years after graduation.
- During your years at West Point, you will participate in the Cadet Leader Development Program, which is a rigorous program of academics, military education and training, and athletics. The program is designed to help you develop the discipline, toughness, and self-reliance required of a leader; it will be demanding and difficult, and you will be expected to perform effectively under these pressures.

Finally, we hope that you will enter West Point only because YOU want to - not because of pressure from parents, counselors, coaches, or peers. Recognize that West Point's mission is to develop top quality leaders for the United States Army.

If, having considered these factors, you resolve to become a part of the "Long Gray Line" - an admired part of America's history since 1802 - I applaud your decision and wish you the very best success. We look forward enthusiastically to welcoming you to West Point's Class of 2010! I am confident you will find the four-year experience the most rewarding of your life. *GO ARMY!*

Sincerely,



William J. Lennox, Jr.
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army
Superintendent

**Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1303**

March 14, 2006

Mr. David T. Carlson
11223 Hiawatha Lane
Indian Head Park, IL 60525

Dear David,

I wish to extend my congratulations to you as well as your family upon your appointment into the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

It is my understanding that you have received your official notice from the Academy just a few days ago.

Certainly your many years of hard work, dedication and tireless efforts have proven to be an asset and a proud moment in your life. Through these efforts you will not only be a credit to your family and community, but to our fine country by way of one of our most prestigious academies which produce such high caliber leaders.

Once again, please accept my sincere wishes for continued success in your quest for a rewarding and challenging future and appointment to this most renowned academy.

With warmest regards, I remain
Sincerely,

Daniel W. Lipinski
Member of Congress

Student News . .

Illinois State University: Congratulations to Jeannine Stupka who was named to the dean's list at Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois. To earn a designation on the dean's list, students must achieve a grade point average that places them in the top 10 percent of their respective colleges at the university.

Concordia University: Congratulations to John Ralph Wydra of 26 Elmwood Drive who will be graduating from Concordia University on May 6th in River Forest, Illinois.

College of DuPage: The following students from Indian Head Park were named to the honor roll at the College of DuPage: Michael Iambor, Nick Moskos, Ann Pokusa, Venessa Rodriguez, James Stern and Jamie Weyforth.

Nazareth Academy: The following students from Indian Head Park were named to the honor roll at Nazareth Academy in LaGrange Park: Cate Gula, Samantha Matkovich, Lauren Gula and Lauren Mayer. Congratulations to all of these students who earned a designation on the "A" Honor Roll.

Fenwick High School: Congratulations to Katherine Bailey who attends Fenwick High School in Oak Park and who was named to the honor roll.

LaGrange Highlands Middle School: The following students were named to the honor roll at LaGrange Highlands School as follows: (Straight A's): Sarah Carlson, Kristen Conrath, Christina Harazin, Mark Koziel, Anastasia Schied, Alison Austermuehle, Veronica Christopher, Jennifer Daar, Jack Gouty, Rebecca MacDonald, Nina Madjer, Brianna McNamee, Mariel Rogozinski, Julia Watkins, Samantha Yelnick, Clare Bohne, Kimberly Campbell, Arghavan Farhadi, Jennifer Schied. (Honor Roll): Teresa Begy, Alisan Goetz, Haley Johnson, Katherine Klemchuk, Victoria Ronin, Willa Skeehan, Jeremy Carlson, Silvana Cespedes, Kathryn Phinick, Alexandra Daemicke, Caroline Dost, Richard Golz, Martin Hasler, William Koziel and Kelly Wang. (Honorable Mention): Elena Knetl, Amy Sheneman, Krista Ziolk, erica Cione, Connor Kriz, Jessica Manuele, Brendan Blaber, Thomas Brannen, Donovan Corcoran, Hector Godinez, Lauren Gronke, Nicole Hladik and Sebastian Hoak.

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For Rent Hilton Head Condo; August 12th - 19th. 3 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath, furnished condo with fully equipped kitchen and adjacent to the 9th fairway of the Ocean Course at Sea Pines Plantation. Sleeps eight. Asking \$1,500. Please contact March or Jean Southerland at (708) 246-1276 for further details.

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TEEPEE TOPICS

Congratulations to Al Krisciunas and Bud Villarreal, who both received the Sheriff's Senior Medal of Honor Award at a ceremony hosted by Cook County Sheriff Michael F. Sheahan at the Chicago Cultural Center in Chicago in April. The Senior Medal of Honor Award is given to those individuals who have demonstrated outstanding volunteerism by showing exceptional commitment to others.

Fred "Ted" Baer of Indian Head Park is one of nine new inductees into the Chicago Catholic League's Athletic Hall of Fame who will be receiving this honor on May 4th in McCook. He graduated from Fenwick in 1951 and played football at the University of Michigan where he was the team's MVP in football in 1954.

The West Cook County Solid Waste Agency and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency will be hosting a Spring Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event on June 10, 2006 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Proviso West High School, 4701 Harrison in Hillside. (The following items may be disposed of: oil based paints, pesticides, solvents, aerosol paints, household batteries, automotive fluids, cleaning products, fluorescent bulbs, lawn chemicals, motor oil. The Agency, along with Rhodes School, will also be hosting an Electronics Collection on June 23rd and June 24th at Lyons Elementary School, 4100 Joliet Avenue in Lyons. (The following items will be accepted: computer equipment, printers, telephones, cell phones, fax machines, copy machines, stereo equipment, software, disks, CD's and tapes -- a \$5.00 co-pay may apply for each television and

monitor donated to this event). For further details, please contact Jim Caporusso at (708) 450-0100 or visit the website: www.westcook.org.

The American Cancer Society will be hosting a Relay for Life of West Cook ceremony event at the Pleasant Dale Park District at Walker Park at dusk on Friday, June 16th and Saturday, June 17th. A ceremony will be held to honor those who have survived cancer and to remember those that have lost their battle with the disease. For further details, please contact Suzette Matkovich at (708) 784-0324.

Our condolences to the families and friends of the following residents of Indian Head Park who recently passed away: James Kay Bone, who had a thirty-seven year career as a pilot with United Airlines, he joined the Missionary Aircraft Ferry Service, a non-profit company dedicated to delivering much needed supplies to missionaries around the world. Betty Chiodo, age 88, a fifteen year resident of Indian Head Park, who worked in sales for thirty-five years before retiring, she was a member of the Berwyn Junior Civic Club and enjoyed many hobbies and crafts. James T. Stuart Jr., age 66, who was a proprietor of his own business and an Army veteran. Edward L. Condon, age 76, a sixteen year resident of Indian Head Park, who spent most of his career with Montgomery Wards, he created and patented a revolutionary system for merchandising distribution and also served in the U.S. Air Force and the Korean War. Corinne E. Filson, age 82, a 20 year resident of Indian Head Park, who worked for the Masonic Children's Center in LaGrange for 27 years.

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